

**STILLWATER COUNTY
COMMISSIONER MINUTES**

<p>Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b).</p>
--

**REGULAR MEETING
November 17, 2020**

PRESENT	Commissioner Mark Crago, Chair, Commissioner Dennis Shupak (via telephone) and Tyrel Hamilton, members, Shannon Fisher, Admin Assistant. Others Present: Carol Arkell, DES; Jerry Friend, Treasurer; Randy Smith, Sheriff’s Office; Joe Morse, Finance/HR; Kisha Miller, City of Columbus; Natasha Sailer, Public Health; Eric Hulteng (via zoom); Stephanie Ray, Economic Development (via zoom); Emily Schabacher, Stillwater County News.
PLEDGE	Commissioner Crago opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
MINUTES	October 27, 2020. Minutes were not ready for review.
CLAIMS	105889 through 105976 in the amount of \$275,440.65. Commissioner Hamilton MOVED to approve the claims. Commissioner Shupak SECONDED . <u>Motion passed unanimously.</u>
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Natasha Sailer announced that Stillwater County continues to have COVID spread throughout the county through community spread. Currently there are 67 positive cases and 6 hospitalizations with 2 hospitalized locally and 4 outside at higher level facilities. Plans for the vaccine are currently being worked on and finalized. There are two approved vaccines that have special storage requirements. One vial package shipment has 1000 doses in it and the storage needs to be able to accommodate that and there is a period when you have to revaccinate the people in 21 or 28 days. Public Health is working closely with local and state resources at this time. Vaccine doses will be shipping out in the end of November to the beginning of December. It is still not known where Montana is on the list to receive the vaccines.
CONSENT AGENDA	<u>Commission</u> A) Maternal and Child Health Block Grant
FILE ITEMS	<u>Sheriff’s Office</u> A) Report for the Month of October in the Amount of \$1050.00 Commissioner Hamilton MOVED to consent to the consent agenda and file the file items. Commissioner Shupak SECONDED . Discussion – Natasha Sailer explained that the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant is a program from the State of Montana in which Public Health provides services for women and children throughout the county. This program includes services such as Well Child follow up, WIC setup assistance, vaccinations, preschool and elementary school vaccination screenings and allows for the FICMMR (fetal, infant, child maternal mortality review committee) program. This program/committee reviews mortalities from the aforementioned group from accident or injury, it is reviewed by a team as a multidisciplinary group and makes recommendations to prevent those injuries. As an example, if there was a drunk driving incident which results in one of the above mortalities, the team works with local resources to develop an educational program to help prevent drunk driving. Maternal health block grant serves at least 700 children and 330 adults per year in Stillwater County. This program also conducts immunizations at schools. Natasha further stated that the grant is now approximately \$6300.00 and Stillwater Billings Clinic has to match that amount twofold. Commissioner Crago mentioned that almost all of

the public health grants pass through the county from the state to the contracted public health entity. Motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR BUSINESS Economic Development

A) Dick Anderson Preconstruction Services Agreement. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the Dick Anderson preconstruction service agreement. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Hamilton noted that the contract is not to exceed \$30,000.00 of work. Commissioner Crago stated that this is in relation to the Facilities Capital Improvement Plan and is specifically for preconstruction of the fairgrounds/events center. Dick Anderson was the contractor selected and this contract will pay for their services to attend the meetings, estimating processes and bidding processes and is their fee leading up to the actual construction. Motion passed unanimously.

B) AIA Contract with Arete Design Group. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the AIA Contract with Arete Design Group. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Discussion - Commissioner Crago stated that this is for overall design services and construction management. The total for the contract is \$1,585,132.00. Commissioner Crago agrees with the contract with the exception of the kitchen consultant for approximately \$10,000.00 to consult on the concession stand is a waste of money. The money would be better spent on other aspects of the project. Shane from Hulteng recommended that the Commissioners approve the full amount and the kitchen consultant can be discussed due to the fact their services have already been utilized. This needs to be discussed further with the design team before it is removed especially with the pullback in that area that was previously discussed. Commissioner Crago noted the discussion. Commissioner Hamilton agreed with Commissioner Crago about that particular item needing to be further reviewed before that design is brought in. Jerry Friend commented that while we all could design a kitchen; this will be a public kitchen with more stringent rules and regulations. Jerry believes that it would be a good idea to bring in a specialist for the kitchen. Commissioner Hamilton and Commissioner Shupak voted for the motion; Commissioner Crago vote against. Motion passed two to one.

GIS

A) Next Generation 911 Agreement. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the Next Generation 911 agreement. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Discussion – Carol Arkell explained that this agreement is the next step to get the GIS data into the Nextgen system to move on to the next process. Motion passed unanimously.

Commission

A) Fair Pen Replacement. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the fair pen replacement. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Hamilton explained that this was presented by Western Ranch Supply in Billings to replace the remaining sheep pen and hog panels for a total amount of \$54,520.00. This will make all the small animal pens the same style as the county moves forward with the new fairgrounds project. Commissioner Crago added that these pens are for the smaller cloven-hoofed animals and can still be utilized if something were to change as the project moves forward. The panels will all match and the gate is safer for assembly and disassembly. These panels will also be utilized to create the show or sale ring. There are also youth not in 4-H from the area that would like to conduct jackpot type shows and having these panels available would be beneficial for this. This also addresses the stated needs and current use by the extension office and also allows for growth. Commissioner Crago further stated that the 4H council will decide what they want to do with the current pens, whether they sell them and give the money to 4H or have the county sell them and buy new panels for the 4H program. There are some safety concerns with the current panels and they will be replaced accordingly. Motion passed unanimously.

B) Fire District CAREs Act Reimbursement in the Amount of \$32,338.22. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the CAREs act reimbursement to the fire district. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Discussion - Commissioner Hamilton noted that this is the reimbursement for June 1, 2020 through July 1, 2020. Commissioner Crago stated that last week the Commission approved a reimbursement for the fire district. Commissioner Crago further stated that he does not feel that the CAREs Act money was handled properly at the state and federal level but it is not the fire districts problem as long as they are following the regulations and guidelines, if they are qualified for it and the state approves it, the fire district is entitled to the money, regardless of how he feels about the program. Motion passed unanimously.

C) Essential Worker Stipend. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the essential worker stipend. Commissioner Shupak **SECONDED**. Discussion - Commissioner Crago explained that full time Stillwater County employees will receive a \$2000.00 claims check and part time employees will receive a \$1000.00 for a total of \$182,250.00. The \$250.00 is for the high school intern. This will be paid for out of the Economic Development Metal Mines fund and also some CAREs act reimbursements. The CAREs act reimbursements are for budgeted items. Stillwater County employees have not worked from home and have been asked to show up to work to serve the public throughout the COVID pandemic and they are essential workers. This is being done to show appreciation to the employees for working safely and to encourage them to work safely at work and at home. Jerry Friend asked if the money will be taxed and subject to payroll tax. Joe Morse responded that this will be a claims check so there will not be taxes withheld but there will be 1099 forms issued to all employees. There will be a note with the checks stating that there will be no taxes withheld for these funds but they will owe taxes depending on their financial circumstances. Commissioner Hamilton added that it was done in this manner to ensure employees got the full stipend amount allocated to it and to figure out the tax structure to ensure the full amount was received by employees doing it the other way was quite an involved process. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COUNTY BUSINESS – Jerry Friend commented that Thursday night at 7:00 p.m., the State of Montana is shutting down their motor vehicle system totally because they are rebuilding parts of the system. Drivers services and anything pertaining to motor vehicles will be done until at least Monday night and it may be at least until the end of the month before the system is restored.

With no further comments hear the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

APPROVED BY: /s/ Mark Crago, Commissioner Chairman
ATTEST: Heidi L. Stadel, Clerk and Recorder